## Florida's Request To Assume Administration of a Clean Water Act Section 404 Program (85 FR 57853, September 16, 2020) EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0640

8d. Historic sites: Tribal

## Historic properties review avoids adverse effects

One commenter (0429-Justin Wolfe) described an agreement between the FDEP and the State Historic Preservation Office, which will ensure protection of historic and cultural resources through a consultation process called "historic properties review." The commenter explained that the review assesses the potential effects that a state Section 404 program permit application may have on historic properties and ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects. The review includes consultation with tribes, local governments, applicants, and the public and complements established procedures for permit processing and public notice under the state Section 404 program.

## Protection of historic or culturally important places is inadequate or unclear

Commenters (0081-A1, 0141-A1, 0220, 0224, 0225) expressed concern that it is unclear how state assumption will impact the level of federal review needed to protect historic and cultural resources, including sites important to tribal nations.

Four commenters (0104-A1, 0150-A1, 0456-A1, 0513-A1) stated that the change does not adequately protect historic or culturally important places, including sites important to tribal nations.

One commenter (0136-A1) worried that state assumption could lead to less time and expertise in the analysis of project impacts on vulnerable wildlife, historic and cultural resources, including sites important to tribal nations.

Multiple commenters (approximately 125) submitted a form letter (form letter 0513-A1) stating that the Assumption does not adequately protect historic or culturally important places, including those of tribal significance.

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